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Item 184

To: Ambassador NOMURA
From: Foreign Minister TOGO
Dispatched: 28 November 1941 8:05 P.M.
Subject: Japan - United States Negotiation
Telegram No. 844 (Ambassador's Code)

Your telegram No. 1189 and others have been received. In spite of the efforts you two ambassadors have made, it is surprising and regrettable that such a proposal as the recent one had been made toward Japan by the United States. It is impossible for us to negotiate on the basis of their proposal. With the submission of the Imperial government's opinion of the American proposal (which will be telegraphed in two or three days), the situation will be such that there will be nothing left but to practically drop the negotiation. But we wish you to refrain from giving the impression to the United States government that the negotiation is broken off. Tell them that you are waiting instructions from the home government and while not making clear to them the intentions of the government, explain to them, as your personal opinion, that Japanese claims have been just and especially that although Japan has made intolerable concessions and has taken a conciliatory attitude in maintaining peace in the Pacific area, the United States government has not reacted to cooperate and has made the solution of the negotiation extremely difficult.

Furthermore, because of the aforementioned situation, the measures which you have suggested in your telegram No. 1180 have all been considered improper at this time, although they had been referred to the parties you mentioned. Please acknowledge the above-mentioned situation.

/end/